

MIAMI COUNTY COUNCIL
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, INDIANA 46970
April 21, 2015

Councilman Manning – Present
Councilwoman Harp – Absent
Councilman Boyer – Present
Councilman Wood – Present
Councilman Wiles – Present
Councilwoman Mull – Present
Councilman Duckwall – Present

Council President Ralph Duckwall called the meeting to order.

Councilman Wiles led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilwoman Mull is glad to be back.

MINUTES

Councilman Manning made a motion to approve the March 17, 2015 minutes. Councilman Boyer 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION/TRANSFERS

C.E.D.I.T. – Miami County Share of Orion Road Repair

Commissioner Chairman Joshua Francis explained that Miami County and Cass County agreed to split the cost of the repair for the road. The amount requested was \$33,000 however the actual amount is \$33,910.88. Chairman Francis stated that if the \$33,000 additional appropriation is granted, the Commissioners would find the 910.88 somewhere else. Councilman Dick Wiles made a motion to approve the \$33,000 appropriation. Councilman Manning 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

C.E.D.I.T – Dues for Regional Planning Council

The Regional Planning Council, which consist of 6 counties, was created last year. The council appropriated a pro-rated amount of approximately \$7,100, however it was too late to include in the regular budget. Councilman Manning stated it was well worth it for Miami County to be a part of this group and made a motion to approve the \$28,415 additional appropriation. Councilman Boyer 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

CLERK PERPETUATION FUND

Clerk Tawna Leffel-Sands Stated that with the loss of the two employees at budget time, her Chief Deputy quitting and a employee on maternity leave, she is getting behind and would like an additional appropriation from her perpetuation fund to get a couple of part time employees. Councilwoman Mull made a motion to allow the additional appropriation of \$10,000 from the Clerk's perpetuation fund. Councilman Manning 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

President Duckwall stated the Council needs to set the dates for the budget hearings. The Council had discussed August 25th, 26th and 27th. Councilman Manning made a motion to set the dates for Budget Hearings as August 25th, 26th and 27th. Councilwoman Mull 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

The Auditor requested a work session to look over funds and do some preparation prior to budgets. Councilwoman Mull made a motion to have a work session on May 12 at 6 p.m. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE

Councilman Boyer stated that his phone has been ringing off the hook because people want to know why their assessment on farm land has gone up 13% - 26% and where is all their tax money going. He feels Miami County is being short changed when the State sets the levy.

Councilman Wood said that the same thing was happening with businesses as well.

Some of the items discussed were:

- *increase in school rate
- *Amount of homes up for tax sales
- *money for TIF areas comes right off the top before any other distribution
- *amount of delinquencies every year
- *amount of non-taxable property in Miami County
- *elimination of some personal property tax

Councilman Boyer would like for the Council to sit down with the Auditor and Assessor for a discussion regarding some of these issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Deputy Auditor Mary Brown said she had sent a memo to the Council members asking if they had any instructions or comments they wanted to send to the departments with their budget forms. She has only heard from President Duckwall. Councilman Manning stated that he agreed with the response made by President Duckwall about not putting in for any raises. No other council member made a comment or suggestions.

Jim Tidd stated that the closeout paperwork for the Hanger 200 project is almost complete. It appears that there will be a reimbursement of approximately \$405,000 returned to the County from the project. As soon as everything is complete, MCEDA will do a cost analysis for the Council.

Councilwoman Mull made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted

Jane Lilley

Miami County Auditor